

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

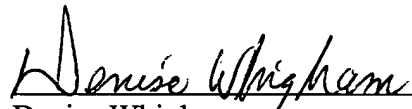
In re Application of)	
)	
EDWARD B. RINKER, ET AL.)	Group Art Unit:
)	
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)	Examiner:
)	
Filed: Herewith)	Paper No.:
)	
Title: FILTERED WATER)	
<u>ENHANCEMENTS</u>)	

Oakland, California 94623
April 15, 2004

Certificate of Mailing – By Express Mail

I hereby certify that this Paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited as Express Mail – Post Office to Addressee, Label No.: ER899108665US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Date: April 15, 2004


Denise Whigham

MAIL STOP: PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

37 C.F.R. §1.98

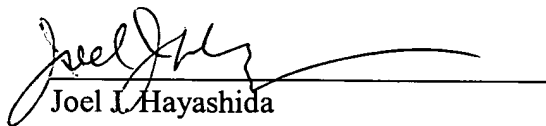
Dear Sir:

This is Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement.

This disclosure consists of references and copies of the foreign patents listed on the attached Forms PTO-1449.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted prior to a first action on the merits, so no fee is believed to be due.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel I. Hayashida", is written over a horizontal line.

Joel I. Hayashida

Reg. No. 30,065

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April 15, 2004

JAPT\RPC\482.146A\IDS

File No.: 482.146A

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 482.146A	APPLICATION NO. to be assigned
	APPLICANT Rinker et al.	
	FILING DATE April 15, 2004	GROUP unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
		US2003/0049352	20030313	Mehansho	A23L	2/00	
		US2004/0055948	20040325	Blum	B01D	35/00	
		US2631521	19530317	Atkins	99	275	
		US2705091	19550329	Marchand	222	129	
		US3255691	19660614	Schwartz	99	275	
		US3568887	19710309	Jacobs	B67D	5/08	
		US4324494	19820413	Pryor	B01F	15/02	
		US4414996	19831115	Klepa	G05D	11/02	
		US4582223	19860415	Kobe	B67D	7/24	
		US4674657	19870623	Daniels	B67D	5/56	
		US5045195	19910903	Spangrud	B01D	24/16	
		US5076425	19911231	Plone	B65D	25/08	
		US5114048A1	19920519	Minke	B67D	5/52	
		US5211973	19930518	Nohren	C02F	9/00	
		US5215659	19930601	Ando	C02F	1/28	
		US5342518	19940830	Posner	B01D	35/02	
		US5427682A	19950627	Vogel	B01D	61/01	
		US5443739A	19950822	Vogel	B01D	61/01	
		US5536394	19960716	Lund	B01D	35/143	
		US5918768	19990706	Ford	B67D	5/56	
		US5922378	19990713	Kagan	A21D	10/02	
		US5931343	19990803	Topar	B67D	5/56	
		US5941380	19990824	Rothman	B65D	25/08	
		US5980959	19991109	Frutin	B65B	31/00	
		US6024012A	20000215	Luzenberg	A47G	19/14	
		US6098795	20000808	Mollstam	B65D	25/08	
		US6221416B1	20010424	Nohren	B65B	55/00	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
		US6372270	20020416	Denny	B65D	25/08	
		US6405900	20020618	Kown	B67C	3/00	
		US6409099B1	20020625	Goodwin	A02C	5/02	
		US6419118B1	20020716	Rees	B65D	35/00	
		US6423224	20020723	Tanner	B01D	24/12	
		US6478192	20021112	Heyes	B65D	5/06	
		US6527109	20030304	Schoo	B65D	25/08	
		US6540070	20030401	Conwell	B65D	25/08	
		US6672817	20040106	Denny	B65D	81/32	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION		
							YES	NO	
		<u>WO 03/022401</u>	20030320	PCT	B01D	39/00			
		<u>WO 03/097478</u>	20031127	PCT	B65D	51/28			
		<u>WO 99/38395</u>	19990805	PCT	A23L	2/40			
		<u>WO2004026769A1</u>	20040401	PCT	C02F	1/461			
		<u>WO2004013047</u>	20020212	PCT	C02F				

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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